



EMERALD KEEPERS

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For an Emerald Green, Ocean Blue Coronado

SHEDDING LIGHT

ON NEW REGULATIONS

As of the beginning of this month, new U.S. energy efficiency standards effectively ban the sale of incandescent and halogen light bulbs.

Incandescent technology was patented by Thomas Edison in the late 1800s. The technology basically stayed the same for more than 100 years until LED (light emitting diode) lights came on the market in the early 2000s. Now available in a range of colors and brightness, LEDs have become the norm in lighting.

NEW RULES

Issued in 2007 and implemented in 2023, the new federal standards for brightness require light bulbs emit a minimum of 45 lumens per watt. LED lights typically produce at least 75 lumens per watt while incandescent and halogen bulbs typically produce around 15 lumens per watt — far short of the new standard. Only about 5% of the energy used by an incandescent bulb produces light; the rest is lost as heat.

LED ADVANTAGES

- **Energy savings.** LEDs use up to 75% less energy than incandescent bulbs.
- **Cost efficiency.** Less energy means lower utility bills. The U.S. Department of Energy estimates Americans will save nearly \$3 billion a year on utilities by using LED lights.
- **Longer lifespan.** LED light bulbs last 25 times longer than their incandescent counterparts.
- **Less hassle.** Longer-lasting bulbs mean fewer trips to the store to buy replacements.
- **Safety.** LED lights stay cool to the touch, reducing the risk of burns and fire.
- **Reduced emissions.** Switching to LEDs is estimated to cut 222 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions over the next 30 years.

EXCEPTIONS

The new regulation allows for the continued sale of specialized incandescent bulbs including those for appliances, bug lights, floodlights, and traffic signals.

Consumers with incandescent bulbs in their home can continue to use them until they burn out. The regulation impacts the sale and manufacture, not use, of the bulbs.

LED bulbs are another step toward helping our planet and keeping Coronado Emerald Green, Ocean Blue.



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Emerald Keepers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

